

The Eighth Day & the Most Great Peace



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Few people understand the manner in which the Kingdom of God on earth will be established. Current theological theory tells us that Jesus the Christ will appear in the sky where the saints (Christians) will meet him in the air (rapture) and thus remain until the seven years of tribulation on earth will be over. Then Jesus and the saints will come down to Mount Zion and Jesus will rule the world for a thousand years. This is a very shallow understanding misleading the people into believing they (Christians) will not have to endure the tribulation and only they will partake in the kingdom of God. God promised an earthly kingdom, a world of peace, unity, and justice for all peoples and nations. It is difficult to imagine such a world for we have never been at peace, nor has there been unity among all nations. The world we currently live in is divisive. Our political system is divisive, our judicial system is divisive, and most important of all, our religious system is divisive. It is no wonder that more and more people shy away from the church. "Religion" is meant to unify. What we witness is the opposite.

There can be no kingdom without a king. The word "kingdom" means a king over a domain. Was Jesus a king? Jesus was a descendant of David, however, it was not through the direct line of kings, rather, through Nathan, the brother of Solomon. This is why Jesus stated that his kingdom was not of this world (John 18:36). The gospel of Jesus was of the **coming** of the kingdom of God, which Jesus said we should pray for (Matt. 6:10). Jesus fulfilled the prophecies for the coming of the "suffering Messiah" (Is. 53:1-12) who would atone for iniquity, to cleanse the sanctuary in heaven with his death on the cross. Jesus was a flesh and blood descendant of King David through his father Joseph. *"the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and designated Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness [Holy Spirit]."*¹ It was not his mission to bring the kingdom of God on earth. This would be the mission of the second advent of Messiah ben David, the Christ, to bring the kingdom of God on earth. God made a Covenant unto David that his line or seed would last forever.

*"I will establish his line **for ever**...I will not violate my covenant, or **alter the word** that went forth from my lips. Once for all I have sworn by my holiness: **I will not lie** to David. His line **shall endure for ever**..."*² *"David shall **never lack a man** to sit on the throne of the house of Israel."*³

*As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.*⁴

Today, the one who is to be seated upon the throne of David is titled the "guardian." Baha'u'llah, the glory of the father (Mark 8:38), second advent of Messiah ben David, was a direct male-line lineal descendant of King David. He was a descendant of David through the male line and also a descendant of the Zoroastrian, Sasanian kings through the female line.

¹ Romans 1:3, RSV, emphasis mine.

² Psalm 89:29,34-36 RSV, emphasis mine.

³ Jeremiah 33:17, emphasis mine.

⁴ Jeremiah 33:22.

The Eternal Cause of God is to establish His kingdom on earth centered around the throne of David. Two of the nine Manifestations of God were prophesied to be descendants of King David, bearing the title “Messiah ben David,” or “Christ.” Both were prophesied by name, address, date, and mission. Baha’u’llah fulfills the prophesies for the King Messiah or Redeeming Messiah and is the “Prince of Peace.” Christian theology teaches that the following passage refers to Jesus of Nazareth, the suffering Messiah.

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for evermore.*⁵

Jesus did not have anything to do with governments. The only statement he made concerning government was “render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar’s” (Matt. 2:21, Mark 12:17). Jesus never claimed to be the “prince of peace,” rather, he stated he did not come to bring peace but the sword (Matt. 10:24), telling his disciples to sell their cloaks and buy a sword (John 18:10, Matt. 26:51). Had Jesus brought a government of peace and justice, then he was the greatest failure in all human history. We have had nothing but wars and injustice since his birth. Isaiah was not prophesying the birth of Jesus, the suffering Messiah. He was prophesying the birth of Baha’u’llah, the King Messiah, or Redeeming Messiah.

Baha’u’llah, a direct male descendant of David sat upon the throne. In his proclamation, Baha’u’llah stated: “*The Most Great Law is come, and the Ancient Beauty ruleth upon the throne of David.*”⁶ Baha’u’llah’s revelation brings the kingdom of God on earth that Jesus instructed us to pray for. Unlike Jesus, Baha’u’llah had sons to continue the throne of David that God coveted would “endure forever.” In his *Book of the Covenant*, Baha’u’llah appointed his son, ‘Abdu’l-Baha, the most great Branch to succeed him.

God’s Will and Testament enjoins upon the branches, the twigs, and the kinsfolk, one an all, to gaze unto the most great Branch. Consider what we have revealed in my Book of Aqdas, to wit:

“When the sea of My Presence is exhausted and the Book of Origin hath reached its end, turn you unto him (‘Abdu’l-Baha) who is desired by God—he who is issued from this ancient Root.”

*The purpose of this sacred verse is the most great Branch...God hath, verily, decreed the station of the great Branch [Muhammad Ali, half-brother of ‘Abdu’l-Baha] next to that of the most great Branch.*⁷

‘Abdu’l-Baha was the Center of the Covenant, and his words were as if Baha’u’llah himself were stating them. ‘Abdu’l-Baha was the sole interpreter and expounder of Baha’u’llah’s teachings, and no one is permitted to turn even a “hair’s breadth” away from their obedience to ‘Abdu’l-Baha’s instructions.

*Baha’u’llah...with His Supreme Pen, entered into a great Covenant and Testament with all the Baha’is whereby they were all commanded to follow the Center of the Covenant [‘Abdu’l-Baha] after His departure, and turn not away even to a hair’s breadth from obeying Him.*⁸

⁵ Isaiah 9:6,7.

⁶ *The Proclamation of Baha’u’llah*, (Haifa, Baha’i World Center 1972) 89.

⁷ Baha’u’llah, *The Kitab-i-Ahd*, (Book of the Covenant) as taken from the Baha’i World Faith (Wilmette, IL: Baha’i Publishing Committee, 1943) 201-211.

⁸ Shoghi Effendi, *Baha’i World Faith, Selected Writings of Baha’u’llah and ‘Abdu’l-Baha* (Wilmette, IL: Baha’i Publishing Committee 1943) 358.

According to the *Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Baha*, God's kingdom on earth will consist of twin institutions: (1) the guardian (Davidic king) and (2), the Universal House of Justice that is to be elected by all the nations of the world.

*And now, concerning the House of Justice which God hath ordained as the source of all good and freed from all error, it must be elected by **universal suffrage**, that is, by the believers....By this House is meant the Universal House of Justice, that is, in all countries a **secondary House of Justice** must be instituted, and these secondary Houses of Justice must elect the members of the Universal one....By this body all the difficult problems are to be resolved and the **guardian of the Cause of God is its sacred head and the distinguished member for life of that body**....This House of Justice enacteth the laws and the government enforceth them. The legislative body must reinforce the executive, the executive must aid and assist the legislative body so that through the **close union and harmony of these two forces**, the foundation of fairness and justice become firm and strong, that all the regions of the world may become even as Paradise itself.⁹*

World Peace is thus maintained through world unity that is centered around the guardian (Davidic King) and by world justice through the Universal House of Justice. The guardian is the executive branch, and the Universal House of Justice is the legislative branch. It is only through these two branches working together that peace and justice will be maintained throughout the nations of the world.

In his comment on the paper, "An Examination of the History of the Baha'i Faith 1957-1963," in referencing God's Covenant unto David, Mr. Hakala states: "No, He did not lie and He did not violate His Covenant. He retained it with the establishment and election of the House of Justice." The so-called Universal House of Justice now present on Mount Carmel is not a descendant of David. It was not elected by **universal suffrage** nor was it elected by **secondary Houses of Justice**. It does not contain the executive branch, the Davidic King, guardian, who is the **sacred head and distinguished member for life of that body**. Furthermore, Shoghi Effendi, the guardian of the Cause of God appointed by 'Abdu'l-Baha, stated:

Divorced from the institution of the Guardianship the World Order of Baha'u'llah would be mutilated and permanently deprived of that hereditary principle which, as 'Abdu'l-Baha has written, has been invariably upheld by the Law of God. In all Divine Dispensations, He states, in a Tablet addressed to a follower of the Faith in Persia, "the eldest son hath been given extraordinary distinctions. Even the station of prophet hood hath been his birthright." Without such an institution [guardianship] the integrity of the Faith would be imperiled, and the stability of the entire fabric would be gravely endangered. Its prestige would suffer, the means required to enable it to take a long, uninterrupted view over a series of generations would be completely lacking, and the necessary guidance to define the sphere of legislative action of its elected representatives would be totally withdrawn.¹⁰

Ruhiyyih Khanum herself, wife of Shoghi Effendi and a Hand of the Cause, voiced the same. In her book, *Twenty-five Years of the Guardianship*, she writes:

*So we see, that when 'Abdu'l-Bahá left us a quarter century ago we were not unprovided for. His plans for the Guardianship—the fruition of Bahá'u'lláh's own scheme, had been made at a very early date...and it was not until after His ascension that we began to appreciate the **perfection of the system God has**, in this most great cycle, given to*

⁹ *Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Baha* (Wilmette, IL: National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States, 1944) 14, 15.

¹⁰ Shoghi Effendi, *Selected Writings of Shoghi Effendi* (Wilmette, IL: Baha'i Publishing Committee, 1942) 43, 44.

*mankind; a system which has the hand of God constantly laid on it from above in the form of a **divinely-guarded Guardianship**.*

She continues by stating: *"With what complacency some of the old and devoted Bahá'ís informed the Guardian that his next and wisest step would be to establish the International House of Justice. On what? He knew so well the long and thorough measures that must first be taken...."* She writes that the believers must come to understand the *Will & Testament* and that **"the institution of Guardianship—tied into the fabric of the Faith by 'Abdú'l-Bahá through His Will in a knot no amount of perseverance and ingenuity can undo..."** prevents any schism from occurring within the Bahá'í Faith. In clear and understandable language she states: *"for the first time in history, a religion has been given to men which cannot be split up into sects, for the two Wills—those of Bahá'u'lláh and the Master—are so strongly constructed...that it is impossible to divorce the body of the teachings from their provisions."* She further writes in relation to the principle of the continuation of the guardianship that *"endowed with the right of divine interpretation, is the very hub of the Cause into which its doctrines and Laws fit like the spokes of a wheel—tear out the hub [guardianship] and you have to throw away the whole thing."*¹¹

There is no unity in this world except through Bahá'u'lláh's *Book of the Covenant*. Shoghi Effendi established both the legislative and executive branches, in embryonic form, so that in the fullness of time the Universal House of Justice would be established bringing peace and justice to the world. It is not Bahá'u'lláh's Universal House of Justice if it does not contain the two branches, the executive and the legislative. The purpose in establishing a Universal House of Justice is to bring peace, unity, and justice among all peoples and nations of the world – God's Kingdom on earth. The fraudulent Universal House of Justice that has now been in existence for sixty years cannot bring peace to the world. We have had nothing but war, an escalation of hate crimes, further deterioration of governments, social unrest, an increase in starvation and poverty. The elimination of the Davidic King from God's kingdom on earth is just one of the many glaring violations committed by the Baha'i World Faith. Sadly, the majority of its believers today are unaware of these violations that transpired after the passing of Shoghi Effendi. The leaders in Haifa have taken great steps to insure that they do not know. They will remove any individual who goes against the so-called authority of their Universal House of Justice.

Likewise, non-Baha'is are unaware of these events if they have even heard of the Baha'i Faith to begin with. Christians are so indoctrinated into believing that only they will be saved that it would serve no purpose to study other religions. To them, all other religions are pagan and not of God (other than Judaism). All people have failed to recognize the progressiveness of God's Revelations beginning with Adam, then Moses, Krishna, Zoroaster, Buddha, Jesus, Muhammad, the Bab, and Baha'u'llah. They each teach the same spiritual laws of love, justice, mercy, generosity, forgiveness, fidelity, concord, harmony, and so forth. They differ only in their laws and teaching for an ever advancing civilization in accordance with the needs of the people of that age. Christians are blinded by the "clouds" of misinterpretation by the clergy and the worship of a mythical Jesus, a resurrected god-man. They await a rapture into thin air and a seven year tribulation period that, if their eyes were open, would understand that we are already experiencing the tribulation and that the "Christ" they continue to pray will come has already been made manifest in the world according to prophecy. They think they are being led into heaven while in truth they are being led to their perdition.

Christians languish under the "oppression" of the worship of the ancient Babylonian religious system, the trinity, while the Baha'is languish under the oppression of a non-authoritative, fraudulent Universal House of Justice. Baha'u'llah declared that *"this oppression is the essential feature of every revelation."* All religions have become corrupt through the lies and misinterpretations of the clergy class. As has happened with all previous Revelations, man has taken what was originally intended and changed it according to their own limited capacity and selfish desires.

¹¹ Ruhiiyyih Khanum, *Twenty-Five Years of the Guardianship* (Wilmette, IL: Baha'i Publishing Committee, 1948) 5, 19, 23, 24-26.

*Leaders of religion, in every age, have hindered their people from attaining the shores of eternal salvation, inasmuch as they held the reins of authority in their mighty grasp. Some for the lust of leadership, others through want of knowledge and understanding, have been the cause of the deprivation of the people. By their sanction and authority, every Prophet of God hath drunk from the chalice of sacrifice, and winged His flight unto the heights of glory. What unspeakable cruelties they that have occupied the seat of authority and learning have inflicted upon the true Monarchs of the world, those Gems of divine virtue!*¹²

Humankind has been deprived of the truth of God's Will and Purpose and His Glorious Covenant for the kingdom of God on earth. The violations committed by Ruhyyih Khanum and the Hands of the Cause have deprived the world of God's Presence and thus humankind is suffering and will continue to suffer as never before.

Because the world has rejected that which would cure the ills of the world, brought by the Divine Physician, Baha'u'llah, the Glory of the Father, the return of Christ, it must now settle for the Lesser Peace.

*Now that ye have refused the Most Great Peace, hold ye fast unto this, the Lesser Peace, that haply ye may in some degree better your own condition and that of your dependents.*¹³

In the second book of Enoch, chapter thirty-three we read:

*AND I appointed the eighth day also, that the eighth day should be the first-created after my work, and that the first seven revolve in the form of the seventh thousand, and that at the beginning of the eighth thousand there should be a time of not-counting, endless, with neither years nor months nor weeks nor days nor hours.*¹⁴

The mentioning of an eighth day is often overlooked by scholars. To understand this "eighth day" we first need to look into the meaning of verses from the twentieth chapter of the book of Revelation (all quotes are from the Revised Standard Version).

1 "Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain."

The "bottomless pit" is the pit of error, the waywardness of the world, or the turning away of mankind from God and His Messengers Who are prophesied in Holy Writ, and the corrupting of their messages, such as the doctrine of the trinity and the incarnate god-lie of the Christians, and the Covenant-breaking of the mainstream Baha'is. The return of Jesus, the Lamb, exposes their corruption and violation through his explanations and commentaries. They are thus given an opportunity to return to the true teachings of Jesus and to the Covenant of Baha'u'llah, and avoid being thrown into the lake of fire.

2 "And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years,"

The "dragon, that ancient serpent who is the Devil and Satan," is the twisted intellect of anyone who goes against God and His Promised Ones. The "serpent" has long been a symbol of the intellect.

¹² Baha'u'llah, *The Kitab-i-Iqan* (Wilmette, IL: Baha'i Publishing Trust, 1974) 15.

¹³ *Gleanings from the Writings of Baha'u'llah* (Wilmette, IL: Baha'i Publishing Trust, 1971) 253, 254.

¹⁴ Joseph B. Lumpkin, *The Books of Enoch*; 2nd book, *The Slavonic Secrets of Enoch* (Blountsville, AL: Fifth Estate Publishers, 2011) 195.

3 *“and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years were ended. After that he must be loosed for a little while.”*

And “threw him,” (meaning the twisted intellect of man), into the pit and sealed it over for a full thousand years. It was the twisted intellect that created the doctrine of the trinity of the Christians and the fraudulent Universal House of Justice without the guardian, created by Ruhiyyih Khanum and the Hands of the Cause.

4 *“Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom judgment was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their testimony to Jesus and for the word of God, and who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life, and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”*

Those who “came to life” are those who accept the Revelation of Baha’u’llah along with the explanations of Jesus, the Lamb, the High Priest, and give their testimony to the Word of God. They do not worship the beast, the United Nations, or its image, and they do not have its mark on their foreheads or their hands.

Baha’u’llah is the second advent of Messiah ben David who sits upon the throne of David which was his heritage. This heritage was continued in Baha’u’llah’s Covenant, in which he appointed ‘Abdu’l-Baha to be his successor. ‘Abdu’l-Baha adopted Mason Remey to be his son, grafting him into the Davidic lineage. The criterion for one to be the “guardian” according to the *Will and Testament of ‘Abdu’l-Baha* is (1) he has to be a “son” and (2) appointed during the lifetime of the previous guardian. This is why Shoghi Effendi placed Mason Remey at the head of the appointed nascent International Baha’i Council, which would, in the fullness of time, effloresce into the Universal House of Justice.

The Baha’is who are under the dictates of the fraudulent UHJ are spiritually dead through their violation of Baha’u’llah’s Covenant. They are prevented from recognizing and being guided by the return of Jesus the Lamb. Therefore, during the great catastrophe, they will suffer immensely. Suffering along with them will be the trinitarian Christians who are looking at the sky instead of the heaven of prophecy for the return of Jesus, missing him on his second coming, and missing the guidance of the one God sent to save them.

5 *“The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.*

6 *Blessed and holy is he who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and they shall reign with him a thousand years.”*

The “first resurrection” occurs when one accepts the Revelation of Baha’u’llah. At this time, they become spiritually alive.

The “second death” refers to physical death, that of the body. Being spiritually alive, this second death does not affect us. All souls go into the next plane of existence. Heaven and hell are conditions, that is, as we draw closer to God, accepting His Word as given through His Promised Ones, striving to live according to the Law of God, we are in heaven. However, when we reject His Promised Ones, seeking only material pleasures and gains, we are in hell. When we were in our mother’s womb, we were in a different plane of existence from this physical plane. We were given eyes, ears, nose, mouth, hands, feet, and so forth while in our mother’s womb. We did not need them to survive in the womb, we needed them to survive in this physical world. Likewise, as the next plane of existence is a spiritual world, we thus need to take upon ourselves spiritual attributes; love, justice, forgiveness, empathy, mercy, generosity, and so forth. It is only in this world that we have the choice to exercise our free will and choose to accept God’s Promised Ones or reject Them. In our age, when we choose to accept the Revelation of Baha’u’llah, we enter into God’s kingdom while here on earth and thus when we pass from this physical plane into the spiritual world we enter into God’s kingdom. All those who share in the first resurrection who are spiritually alive survive the four winds of destruction that are about to fall upon humankind.

In Revelation it tells us that the “beast” nations (United States, France, England, and Russia) will become four living creatures.

The first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle.¹⁵

The “lion” is the symbol of England. Before Russia became communist it had the “ox” as its symbol and thus after the destruction it will again have the ox for its symbol. France once had the leopard and the fleur-de-lis as its symbol. After WWII it took the symbol of Charles de Gaulle, the “face of a man,” The United States will retain the eagle as its symbol.

These nations will be the first to adopt the Baha’i Revelation as their state religion and form the Supreme Tribunal – the Lesser Peace, a peace that will last for a thousand years. During this time other nations may recognize the Baha’i Revelation and also join the Supreme Tribunal. However, not all nations may do so.

7 “And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be loosed from his prison

8 and will come out to deceive the nations which are at the four corners of the earth, that is, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea.”

The “nations” will be those countries that exist in the world at the end of the one thousand years. Baha’u’llah prophesied that the coming of the next Manifestation would be in a thousand years.

Whoso layeth claim to a Revelation direct from God, ere the expiration of a full thousand years, such a man is assuredly a lying imposter. We pray God that He may graciously assist him to retract and repudiate such claim. Should he repent, God will, no doubt, forgive him. If, however, he persisteth in his error, God will, assuredly, send down one who will deal mercilessly with him. Terrible, indeed, is God in punishing! Whosoever interpreteth this verse otherwise than its obvious meaning is deprived of the Spirit of God and of His mercy which encompasseth all created things. Fear God, and follow not your idle fancies. Nay, rather follow the bidding of your Lord, the Almighty, the All-Wise.¹⁶

Satan, or the twisted intellect, will again be let loose after a thousand years, and the people will be deceived and will not recognize or accept the next Manifestation. In a thousand years, there will be another nuclear war and the situation will be similar to today.

9 “And they marched up over the broad earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city; but fire came down from heaven and consumed them,”

Here the “saints” are those who had remained firm believers in the true Revelation of God. But they will be deceived by the twisted intellect of man in the same manner the people today have been deceived by the clergy into believing the incarnate god-lie and those who were deceived by Ruhiyyih Khanum into believing the Davidic Kingship had come to an end.

The “beloved city” refers to the Law of God. “Fire” symbolizes a second nuclear catastrophe, which will again destroy those who have turned away from God.

10 “and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”

The “lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet were” is a reference to the nuclear war that is soon to come upon humankind and the “beast” and “false prophet” will be destroyed. When

¹⁵ Revelation 4:7.

¹⁶ Baha’u’llah, *Kitab-i-Ahd*, 211.

satan is let loose in a thousand years there will be another nuclear war. "They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever," meaning the satanic minds of men will be tormented by desires that are counter to God. However, these satanic minds will never again be able to oppose God. They will be destroyed forever and suffer eternally.

After the "seventh day" or one thousand years, all nations will accept the Baha'i Revelation as the means for peace, unity, and justice throughout the whole world. This is the beginning of the "eighth day" in fulfillment of "but the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished."

We have advanced tremendously through our scientific and technological achievements. However, the true measure of the advancement of any society must be measured by its spiritual growth. Our current global society is a witness to our lack of any spiritual progress. The spiritual evolvement of humankind is painstakingly slow. Baha'u'llah explains: *All human attainment moveth upon a lame ass, whilst Truth, riding upon the wind, darteth across space.* However, with the completion of the thousand years and the beginning of the eighth day night shall be no more and nations will become as "living (spiritual) creatures."

at the beginning of the eighth thousand there should be a time of not-counting, endless, with neither years nor months nor weeks nor days nor hours.

5 "And night shall be no more; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they shall reign for ever and ever."

All the past Revelations of God, having reached their zenith, then became corrupt, and the true meaning of that Revelation became misinterpreted and lost. This is what is referred to as darkness or "night."

The Revelation of Baha'u'llah will never become "night." The Universal House of Justice prevents misinterpretation or usurpation of this Revelation. *"If that House of Justice shall decide unanimously, or by a majority, upon any question not mentioned in the Book (Kitab-i-Aqdas) that decision and command will be guarded from mistake."* The dispensation of Baha'u'llah will last for five hundred thousand years. There will appear other Manifestations such as the one prophesied by Baha'u'llah in a thousand years to make changes for the exigencies of the times.

Problems will arise in the world and will be resolved by the Universal House of Justice.

It is incumbent upon these members (of the Universal House of Justice) to gather in a certain place and deliberate upon all problems which have caused difference, questions that are obscure and matters that are not expressly recorded in the Book. Whatsoever they decide has the same effect as the Text itself...The House of Justice is both the Initiator And the Abrogator of its own laws.¹⁷

All those who become believers in this Revelation through the Lamb's explanations will realize that the guardian (Davidic King) is the sign of God on earth and is the head (executive) of the legislative body of the Universal House of Justice. Without both the executive branch and the legislative body, there can be no justice, and without justice, there cannot be a Universal House of Justice.

"The legislative body must reinforce the executive, the executive must aid and assist the legislative body so that through the close union and harmony of these two forces, the foundation of fairness and justice may become firm and strong, that all the regions of the world may become even as Paradise itself."

1 "Then he showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb"

¹⁷ *Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l-Baha*, 20.

The “river of the water of life” is the Revelation of Baha'u'llah, and it is explained by the Lamb. “Bright as crystal” means that it is made easy to understand through the Lamb’s explanations and commentaries.

The “throne” is the throne of King David that is to last forever. Baha'u'llah, a male sperm descendant of King David was seated on this throne. In His Covenant (*Kitab-i-'Ahd*), Baha'u'llah continued this lineage through His son, 'Abdu'l-Baha, then 'Abdu'l-Baha continued this lineage in his son Mason Remey. Shoghi Effendi, the guardian of the Cause of God, placed Mason Remey at the head of the embryonic Universal House of Justice (the first International Baha'i Council) where “*all the difficult problems are to be resolved,*” and “*the Guardian of the Cause of God is its sacred head and the distinguished member for life of that body.*” Thus, this lineage of King David is continued in the executive branch, or head of the Universal House of Justice.

The Lamb is the return of Jesus as the Lamb, the one to whom all the people of the world are to turn.

2 “*Through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*”¹⁸

The “city” is the New Jerusalem, the “Holy City.” This refers to the material Law, which is described as the Holy City. The “tree of life” is the Covenant of Baha'u'llah. Unless one eats of this tree, he does not inherit eternal life. The “river” is the Revelation of Baha'u'llah.

The “twelve kinds of fruit” are the twelve basic principles of the Baha'i faith. The “leaves of the tree” symbolize the believers in this Revelation who accept the return of Jesus, the Lamb, establisher of the Baha'i Revelation and accept his explanations and commentaries regarding the truth of the Covenant. By teaching God's Word and establishing His Cause, they heal the nations. The leaves also symbolize the spiritual teachings of Baha'u'llah's Revelation.

The eighth day is that day which is not followed by night and the peoples and nations of the world will attain unto the Most Great Peace. In the book of Isaiah, we read:

*The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.*¹⁹

These verses relate to the Great Day of God, the establishment of His Kingdom throughout all the peoples and nations of the world. Use of terms, such as wolf, lamb, and bear, etc., is symbolic for nations of the world who will no longer be at war, and peace and prosperity will fill the earth, and “*the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.*” The reference “*and a little child shall lead them,*” is the United States, for it is the youngest nation and while it stands at the threshold of great destruction, it shall evolve into a radiant illumination of the spiritual endowments of God's Will and lead the peoples and nations of the world into the Kingdom of God. “*The continent of America, is, in the eyes of the one true God, the land wherein the splendors of His light shall be revealed, where the mysteries of His Faith shall be unveiled [the Covenant], where the righteous [those who come under the shelter of the Covenant] will abide and the free assemble.... Its future is even more promising, for its influence and illumination are far reaching. It will lead all nations spiritually.*”²⁰

¹⁸ Revelation 22:1, 2.

¹⁹ Isaiah 11:6-9.

²⁰ Words of 'Abdu'l-Baha as cited by Shoghi Effendi in *God Passes By*, 234.



In this marvelous cycle, the earth will be transformed, and the world of humanity arrayed in peace and beauty. Disputes, quarrels and murders will be replaced by harmony, truth, and concord; among the nations, peoples, races, and countries, love and amity will appear. Co-operation and union will be established, and finally war will be entirely suppressed.... Universal peace will raise its tent in the center of the earth, and the blessed tree of life will spread to such an extent that it will overshadow the East and the West. Strong and weak, rich and poor, antagonistic sects and hostile nations, which are like the wolf and the lamb, the leopard and kid, the lion and calf, will act towards each other with the most complete love, friendship, justice, and fairness. The world will be filled with science, with the knowledge of the reality of the mysteries of beings, and with the knowledge of God.

~ Bahá'u'lláh